

38

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2011-2012)**

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CO-OPERATION)**

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2012-2013)

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Fourth Report
of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012)}**

THIRTY EIGHTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August 2012/Bhadrapada, 1934 (Saka)

THIRTY EIGHTH REPORT

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2011-2012)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION)**

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

(2012-2013)

**(Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Fourth Report of the Committee on
Agriculture (2011-2012)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 30.08.2012

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 30.08.2012



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2012/Bhadrapada, 1934 (Saka)

COA No. 261

Price: Rs.

© 2012 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fourteenth Edition) and Printed by

<CONTENTS>

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	01
CHAPTER II Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	16
CHAPTER III Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	41
CHAPTER IV Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	42
CHAPTER V Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	50

ANNEXURES

I.	Minutes of the Forty-fourth Sitting of the Committee held on 28 August, 2012.	52
II.	Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Fourth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012).	54

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2011-12)

Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Narayansingh Amlabe
3. Shri K.C. Singh 'Baba'
4. Shri Thangso Baite
5. Smt. Shruti Choudhary
6. Smt. Ashwamedh Devi
7. Shri Biren Singh Engti
8. Shri Anant Kumar Hegde
9. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
10. Shri Sk. Nurul Islam
11. Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia
12. Shri Premdas
13. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
14. Shri Devji M. Patel
15. Shri Vitthalbhai Hansrajbhai Radadiya
16. Shri Nripendra Nath Roy
17. Shri Jagdish Thakor
18. Shri Laxman Tudu
19. Shri D. Venugopal
20. Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav
21. Shri Ramakant Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Shashi Bhusan Behera
- *23. Shri Narendra Budania
- *24. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
25. Shri A. Elavarasan
- *26. Shri Vinay Katiyar
27. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
28. Shri Upendra Kushwaha
29. Shri Bharatsinh Prabhatsinh Parmar
30. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
31. Shri S. Thangavelu

**Nominated to the Committee on 04.05.2012.*

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri K. Vijayakrishnan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri P.C. Koul | - | Additional Director |
| 3. | Shri C. Vanlalruata | - | Deputy Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty-eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2012-2013) pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).

2. The Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012) on Demands for Grants (2012-2013) pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 30 April, 2012. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 30 July, 2012.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 28 August, 2012.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee is given in **Annexure-II**.

NEW DELHI;
28 August, 2012
06 Bhadrapada, 1934 (Saka)

BASUDEB ACHARIA
Chairman,
Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER I

Report

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants – 2012-13 pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 30 April, 2012.

1.2 The Department have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 17 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as under:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government :
Recommendation Nos. 2.33, 2.35, 3.44, 3.45, 3.48, 3.49, 3.50, 3.51, 3.52, 3.53 and 3.54
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:
Recommendation Nos. Nil
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which action taken replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee
Recommendation Nos. 2.32, 2.34, 3.46, 3.47 and 3.55.
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.
Recommendation No. 2.36.

1.3 The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the

Government. In cases where it is not possible for the Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of the Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS
(Recommendation Para No. 2.32)

1.5 The Committee had repeatedly observed that in spite of the Department's utilization of funds being in the range of 95% of the amount made available to them at the revised estimates stage, the Department's approved outlay of Rs. 66577.00 crore by the Planning Commission during the Eleventh Plan period was not evenly spread. This hampered the implementation of schemes of the Department. Keeping the interest of Indian Agriculture in mind, the Committee had once more impressed upon all agencies concerned with the planning process to adopt a holistic approach and ensure that allocation of funds to the Department be evenly spread across all fiscals to avoid backloading of Plan funds. This, in the opinion of the Committee, would not only ensure that the Department are allocated maximum share of its approved Outlay, thereby ensuring optimum utilization of allocated resources, but also bring the figures of approved Outlay and actual allocation on an even keel during the Twelfth Plan period.

1.6 The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that against an approved allocation of Rs.66,577 crore for XI Plan, Planning Commission/Finance Ministry provided Rs.61,527.90 crore at RE stages after taking into consideration resource availability and demands from other competing national priorities. Out of this, an amount of Rs.60,866.232 crore has been utilized by the Department for the development of agriculture sector through various schemes implemented during the Eleventh Plan period, which works out to 98.92% of allocated resources.

1.7 The Committee strongly deprecate the reply of the Government which has flowed monotonously during the course of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and that too bereft of a proper understanding of the Committee's repeated recommendations regarding allocation of Plan funds. What irks the Committee is the procedure followed by the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) which has resulted not only in variance between approved Outlay and actual allocation, but also in lopsided allocations. These factors have consequently led to a high performing Department, viz. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, not being able to get their full complement of earmarked funds, which proved detrimental to the growth of the agriculture sector which is the major constituent of the Indian economy, during the Eleventh Plan. Due to delays in planning and approvals, the first two years of the Plan saw very little on implementation front. This resulted in a cascading effect on the last three fiscals with funds going abegging as hardly anytime was left for implementing the new Schemes. The reply of the Department is indicative of the

fact that they too have reconciled to the existing situation. What further agitates the Committee is the fact that it appears as though agriculture is no longer a national priority in terms of budgetary allocation. Taking into consideration the precarious condition of Indian agriculture, the Committee recommend that all concerned agencies should introspect on the performance of this lifeline sector during the Eleventh Plan and devise a mechanism which ensures parity between earmarked funds and actual allocation for Agriculture Sector during the course of the Twelfth Plan.

INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE
(Recommendation Para No. 2.34)

1.8 The Committee while taking into account the increase in public sector investment in agriculture being in the range of 17.6% to 22.5% and the Gross Capital formation (GCF) in Agriculture & Allied sectors at 2004-05 prices for the fiscal 2010-11 being 20.1%, were of the strong opinion that this is a meagre amount considering the fact that agriculture is the principal source of livelihood for 58% of the populace. The candid acceptance of the Department that the present level of public investment is inadequate and funds' crunch is retarding the progress of a number of vital schemes further buttressed their opinion. Keeping in view the stark reality that almost 60% of the population is living on 15% of the GDP, the Committee exhorted the Planning Commission to go for a quantum enhancement of public investment in Agriculture Sector during the Twelfth Plan Period. They also urged the Government to break free from the shackles of their extant piece-meal approach towards the agriculture sector and go for a holistic approach to ensure a turnaround in this vital sector.

1.9 The Department, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that allocation of Central Plan Outlay for various sectors is done by the Planning Commission based on the overall resources available at the disposal of the Government, priorities assigned for competing sectors/objectives and after wide ranging consultations with various stakeholders. Due to the low growth rate in the Agriculture Sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Government had made conscious efforts in stepping up the allocation to Agriculture & Allied sectors during Eleventh Five Year Plan by way of higher allocations and also incentivizing the State Governments to enhance public investment in these sectors to sustain and maintain capital formation and agriculture infrastructure. This had resulted in the Plan Outlay on various schemes of this Department increasing substantially from Rs. 9530.33 crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 16515.05 crore in 2011-12 (RE). For the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the Budget Estimate is Rs. 20208.00 crore, an increase of 22.36% over the previous year's RE.

1.10 Notwithstanding the fact that Plan Outlay of the Department has increased from Rs. 9530.33 crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 16515.05 crore in 2011-12 and further to Rs. 20208 crore in the ongoing Fiscal, the Committee are of the firm opinion that the budgetary allocations are meager in view of the fact that the Indian economy is still a predominantly agrarian economy and the Agriculture Sector continues to be the principal source of livelihood for 58% of the population. The Committee also wonder as to how the Government propose to achieve their objective of food security for all in the absence of even minimal funding for the agriculture sector. They, therefore, impress upon the Planning Commission and the Government to

at least now realize that starving the Agriculture Sector of funds would have a debilitating effect on our economy, which is already reeling under severe recession. The Committee, therefore, recommend substantially enhanced allocation for the Agriculture Sector during the Twelfth Plan. This would, in the present bleak scenario, work in a two-pronged manner by not only improving the lot of those presently engaged in the vocation, but would also ensure that the youth are also drawn towards the profession of agriculture. The Committee are pretty sanguine that if the Government pays heed to their recommendation, a turn-around in the fortunes of the agriculture sector would not be far off and it would in its wake also expedite a turn around in the Country's economy.

MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR TWELFTH PLAN
(Recommendation Para No. 2.35)

1.11 Noting with appreciation that the Department had finally acted upon the recommendation contained in their Twenty-second Report about pruning the number of Schemes for the Twelfth Plan and the 53 Schemes of fiscal 2011-12 had been converged into 7 National Missions, viz. National Mission on Seeds and Planting Material; National Food Security Mission; Mission on Oilseeds and Oil-Palm; National Horticulture Mission; National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture; National Mission on Farm Mechanisation and Energy; and National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology, the Committee had, therefore, impressed upon the planners to accord clearance to these revolutionary proposals at the earliest and ensure their implementation in quick time.

1.12 The Department, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that approval of any new scheme is through an established procedure, which entails appraisal of the proposed scheme through comments of the relevant Departments/Ministries of the Government and the Planning Commission. The concern of the Committee was conveyed by DAC to the Planning Commission. 'In principle approval of Planning Commission has been received in respect of National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology, National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and Farmers Income Security Scheme'. The proposals have to be evaluated through EFC before obtaining approval of CCEA. Efforts of DAC are to complete the process in the shortest possible time through constant monitoring of various stages of appraisal.

1.13 The Committee are highly perturbed over the turn of events beyond the pruning down of the number of Schemes and apprehend a repeat of the Eleventh Plan. We are half-way through the first year of the Twelfth Plan and the Plan Document is yet to be finalised. The EFC appraisals, etc. are all subsequent exercises. Apparently, things are not moving in the right direction and at the desired pace. The Committee while keeping their fingers crossed, exhort the Planners and the Government to work over time to clear the uncertainty over the Twelfth Plan so that not only DAC but all ministries/departments have their task cut out and are able to work in right earnest towards implementation of their Schemes without any further loss of time.

MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR TWELFTH PLAN
(Recommendation Para No. 2.36)

1.14. Having observed the cascading effect of delay in finalisation of Eleventh Plan Document in terms of staggering of timelines and backloading of funds, the Committee, in their Twenty-Second Report, had recommended to the Planning Commission and other concerned agencies to streamline the planning process and ensure timely finalization of the Twelfth Plan Document and convey the same to all line ministries/department by 31 December, 2011 so that they are able to complete all necessary formalities at their end in the last quarter of the fiscal 2011-12 and be in all readiness to implement the Twelfth Plan Schemes from day one, i.e. 1 April, 2012. On being apprised that the Twelfth Plan Document is yet to be finalized and would take another three to four months before it is placed before the National Development Council, the Committee recommended that all concerned should keep in view the detrimental effect of this time consuming process on the development of all sectors and undertake concrete steps to get the Twelfth Plan Document finalized within the next three months.

1.15 In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry have stated that the Planning Commission is in process of finalizing the Twelfth Plan. Approach Paper for the Twelfth Five Year Plan has been approved by the Full Planning Commission. Effort is being made to complete the process at an early date.

1.16 As already, stated in the previous Recommendation, the Committee are deeply concerned at the malaise afflicting the planning process in vogue. The

Committee not wanting the Twelfth Plan Document to suffer the fate of the Eleventh Plan had in their Thirty-fourth Report recommended that all concerned agencies should get the Twelfth Plan Document finalized within the next three months. However, much to their dismay the reply of the Department reveals that nothing tangible has been achieved during the said period. The fact that the Planning Commission is still in the process of finalizing the Twelfth Plan when we are almost at the RE stage of the First Year of the Plan does not augur well. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation for speedy finalization and implementation of the Twelfth Plan. They would also like to be apprised of the extant position in the matter.

MARKETING RESEARCH AND INFORMATION NETWORK (MRIN)
(Recommendation Para No. 3.46)

1.17 Noting the reluctance of the States to avail central funds for establishing a nationwide information network under a standalone Marketing Research and Information Network, the Committee had while whole-heartedly supporting the stand of the Department for merging this Scheme under RKVY, as States have some amount of freedom under RKVY, asked the Department to pursue the fructification of merger of the Scheme with RKVY.

1.18 The Department, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that for the Eleventh Plan, a total of Rs. 20.00 crore was available for implementation of the MRIN Scheme, with a Plan Outlay of Rs. 15.00 crore and Rs. 5.00 crore already available with NIC from savings of the Ninth and Tenth Plan period. 590 new computers were sanctioned

against the target of 360 computers and 574 old computers (provided during 2000-02) were sanctioned for replacement. However, the budget provided for new computers and replacement of old computers was not utilized due to availability of funds of with NIC from savings from Ninth and Tenth Plan due to reduction of computer costs. An amount of Rs.14.10 crore was, therefore, utilized during the Eleventh Plan against the available funds of Rs. 15 crore that included funds of Rs.5.56 crore released to the States for undertaking market-led extension activities, i.e. Training of farmers and Training of Trainers, etc. as per the proposals received from the States. The under-utilization of funds was due to availability of funds with NIC.

It was further stated that efforts have been made to intensify activities under the Scheme. The AGMARKNET portal has been harmonized with State portals. The database developed is also serving various Commodity Directorates of the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation by providing customized hyperlinks to data pertaining to specific commodities. The dissemination of market information is being made in association with other mobile service providers like REUTERS, IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd., NOKIA, BSNL, etc. through SMS to the farmers and other beneficiaries.

1.19 The reply of the Government while giving a detailed explanation on the reasons responsible for under-utilization of funds during the course of the Eleventh Five Year Plan under the Scheme of Marketing Research and Information Network (MRIN) is completely silent on the aspect of merger of this Scheme with the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The Committee find this inexplicable as in the first place, this idea was mooted by the Department

themselves. Deprecating the incomplete reply of the Department, the Committee reiterate their recommendation of merger of MRIN with RKVY at the earliest and also desire to be apprised about the progress achieved, within three months of the presentation of this Report to Parliament. They also expect the Department to be careful while furnishing any information to the Committee and ensure that such cases are not repeated.

GRAMEEN BHANDARAN YOJANA
(Recommendation Para No. 3.47)

1.20 Concerned to note that the data furnished by the Department on physical achievement of the Grameen Bhandaran Yojana only mentioned the number of completed godowns and total capacity while remaining silent on the capacity utilization of these godowns as also keeping in view that the increased production of foodgrains witnessed during the last two fiscals was creating storage problems for Central and State Governments, the Committee had asked the Department to collect the capacity utilisation data at the earliest and furnish to them so that a proper and accurate assessment of this Scheme could be done.

1.21 The Department, in their Action Taken Note, have stated that 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' was launched w.e.f. 01.04.2001 and since its inception up to 31st May, 2012, 28374 godowns having a capacity of 324.31 lakh tonnes with subsidy of Rs. 878.26 crore have been sanctioned all over the country. During the Eleventh Plan period from April, 2007 to March, 2012, 13719 rural godown projects having a capacity of 135.01 lakh tonnes have been sanctioned under the scheme against the target of 90

lakh tones. Since this Scheme is construction linked and capital investment linked subsidy is provided under the Scheme, data regarding capacity utilization of rural godown is not maintained. However, report of the Evaluation of the Central Sector Scheme of construction of Rural Godown carried out in 2005 mentions that 95% of godowns are used to store agriculture output and only 5 % store both input and output.

1.22 The Committee are pained at the reply of the Government which, in their opinion, is indicative of their lackadaisical attitude towards the Committee's instant recommendation. Further, they do not at all buy the argument that as the Gramen Bhandaran Yojana is construction linked and capital investment linked subsidy is provided under the Scheme, data regarding capacity utilization of rural godowns is not maintained. Unless and until capacity utilisation is known how are Government planning capacity augmentation under this Scheme, year after year, defies logic. The Committee recommend that the Government get this data collected immediately and furnish the same to the Committee post haste so as to facilitate a quantitative and qualitative analysis of development of storage infrastructure.

SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS
(Recommendation Para No. 3.50)

1.23 In order to motivate the States/UTs to increase their participation in the Scheme and avail more central funds as dynamic and reliable partners, the Committee had recommended the Department to take into consideration their views on this Scheme and to incorporate the same to the extent possible. They further desired that the reach

of this Scheme be expanded from the present 604 ATMA's in 28 States and 3 UTs, so as to ensure all States/UTs are covered by this Scheme before the culmination of the Twelfth Plan.

1.24 The Government, in their Action taken Note, have stated that feedback and views of the States/UTs are obtained regularly in Review Meetings, Zonal input conferences and National Conferences held annually before Rabi and Kharif seasons and by telephonic conversations. Their suggestions for further improvement in implementation of the Scheme are being incorporated in the Twelfth Plan EFC. All the rural districts across the country are to be covered under ATMA Scheme. The number of ATMA's has been increased from 604 to 614 during 2012-13 in 28 States and 3UTs. However, three UTs, namely Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have not been responding to ATMA Scheme since inception, i.e. 2005-06.

1.25 The Committee appreciate that the Government have initiated action upon their recommendation for increasing the coverage of the ATMA Scheme from the present 604 in 28 States and 3 UTs to 614 during 2012-13 and also deciding to bring all rural districts under the ATMA umbrella. The Committee, however, find it inexplicable as to why the UTs of Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have been unresponsive to the ATMA Scheme since its inception, i.e. 2005-06. They would, therefore, like the Department to apprise them at the earliest of the reasons due to which these three UTs have chosen not to benefit from this Scheme.

**DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF SEED INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES
FOR PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF QUALITY SEEDS**
(Recommendation Para No. 3.55)

1.26 Having been informed about the inadequacy of the present infrastructure of seed testing, i.e. Seed Testing Laboratories, the Committee had desired the Department to work on strengthening this infrastructure at the earliest and get cleared the Scheme of National Mission on Seeds in quick time. To enable the farmers in being able to get firsthand knowledge about the quality of a particular seed before investing in it, the Committee had also desired the Department to establishing Seed Testing Laboratories at more than one location in a district depending upon the geographical size of the district and apprise them of the steps taken in this regard.

1.27 In their Action Taken Note, the Department have stated that in order to ensure availability of quality seeds it has been providing financial assistance for strengthening/establishing of Seed Testing Laboratories under the component “Quality control arrangements on seeds’ of the Central Sector Scheme “Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds”. The proposed sub-mission on “Seeds and Planting Material” of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme “National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology”, whose approval process is being expedited will have a more focused approach to whole gamut of activities pertaining to Seed Sector.

1.28 Taking cue from the admission of the Department that the present infrastructure of Seed Testing is Seed Testing Laboratories is inadequate, the Committee desire that the Scheme of National Mission on Seeds be cleared in quick time and the Department establish Seed Testing Laboratories at more than one location in a district, depending on the geographical size of the district. In their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, the Department have stated that they propose to have more focused approach to the whole gamut of activities pertaining to the seed sector in the proposed sub mission on “Seeds and Planting Material” of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme ‘National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology’ for which the processes/approvals are being expedited. However, the reply is silent on the aspect of strengthening of Seed Testing Laboratories. The Committee, therefore, desire the Government to pursue speedy implementation of the above-mentioned Scheme and also inform the Committee on how they propose to strengthen the extant system of Seed Testing mechanisms in the country.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

(ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS) **(Recommendation Para No. 2.33)**

The Committee also observe that the Department have not been able to entirely utilize even this reduced allocation during the last five fiscals. Being well aware of the reasons for this, they exhort the Department to take steps to utilize even the reduced allocations to the hilt as in the entire Eleventh Plan period, the Department consistently failed to utilize the reduced allocations completely, by motivating the States/UTs to end their proposals as well as utilization certificates timely, thereby ensuring uniform pace of utilization of funds in each fiscal year. They also desire the Department to incorporate the views of States/UTs while drawing up the modalities of a Scheme. This in their considered opinion would ensure active participation of States/UTs in all Central Schemes as well as ensure optimum utilization of scarce resources. They would like to be apprised of the action taken in the matter.

Reply of the Government

Out of the total Plan allocation of Rs.61,527.90 crore for the XIth Plan, an amount of Rs.60,866.23 crore was utilized by the Department, which works out to 98.92% of the allocated resources.

As regards incorporating views of the States while drawing up the modalities of a scheme, the same is followed and the guidelines issued accordingly. To illustrate, RKVY is a State Plan Scheme which provides complete flexibility to States to plan and execute projects and intervention as per their local priorities and needs, keeping in view their agro-climatic/ technological capabilities.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

(MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR TWELFTH PLAN)
(Recommendation Para No. 2.35)

The Committee are happy to note that the Department had finally acted upon their recommendation contained in their Twenty-Second Report of reducing the number of Schemes for the Twelfth Plan. This was based on the admission of the Department that due to good response it had elicited from States/UTs from Rashtriya Krishi Vigyan Yojana (RKVY) which under its umbrella had a plethora of Schemes and allowed States/UTs a certain degree of flexibility and a sense of participation and partnership as well. From 53 Schemes in the fiscal 2011-12, the Department have pruned it down to Seven National Missions to address issues pertaining to Agriculture. These are (i) National Mission on Seeds and Planting Material; (ii) National Food Security Mission; (iii) Mission on Oilseeds and Oil-Palm; (iv) National Horticulture Mission; (v) National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture; (vi) National Mission on Farm Mechanisation and Energy; and (vii) National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology. The Department's contention is that by reducing the number of Schemes being implemented by them they would be able to avoid overlapping as well as duplication of Schemes. They therefore, desire upon the planners to accord clearance to these revolutionary proposals at the earliest and ensure its implementation in quick time. They desire to be apprised of the action taken in this regard at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

Approval of any new scheme is through an established procedure, which entails appraisal of the proposed scheme through comments of the relevant Departments/Ministries of the Government and Planning Commission. The concern of the Committee was conveyed by DAC to Planning Commission. 'In principle approval of Planning Commission has been received in respect of National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology, National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm, National Mission for Sustainable

Agriculture and Farmers Income Security Scheme'. The proposals have to be evaluated through EFC before obtaining approval of CCEA. Efforts of DAC are to complete the process in the shortest possible time through constant monitoring of various stages of appraisal.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.13 of Chapter I of this Report.

(NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION) **(Recommendation Para No. 3.44)**

The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is under implementation w.e.f. Rabi 2007-08 in pursuance of a resolution accepted by the National Development Council (NDC) to enhance the production of Rice by 10 million tonnes, of Wheat by 8 million tonnes and Pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of the Eleventh Plan. The mission has three components namely – NFSM Rice, NFSM Wheat and NFSM Pulses and is being implemented in 482 identified districts of 19 States of the Country. The Committee observe that during the last five fiscals BE amount was curtailed at RE stage and the actual utilization was lower in comparison to the RE amounts. The Department have attributed the underutilization of funds to the fact that 10% of the allocated funds are allocated to the North Eastern Region (NER) with coverage restricted to just two States i.e. Assam and Tripura and their inability to absorb the allocated funds in view of the unique geographical location of the North Eastern Region. The Committee desire the Department to rework the guidelines of the said Scheme for the NER so as to enhance its coverage in the region. By doing so, the 10% allocation for NER could be optimally utilized, thereby ensuring the entire allocation is utilized at least in the next Five Year Plan.

Reply of the Government

As desired by the Committee, all the Northern Eastern States have been covered under NFSM during 2012-13.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

(NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION) **(Recommendation Para No. 3.45)**

The Committee laud the Department on the success of the Scheme in the fiscal 2011-12 whereby the production of food grains reached a record level of 250.4 million tonnes which is 6.4 million tonnes higher than the Planning Commission's projected demand of 244.0 million tonnes. The silver lining being the record increase of about 20% in rice production in the Eastern Region in comparison to the production of 2010-11. Keeping in view the potential of this Scheme in changing production/ productivity and performance in agriculture sector, the Committee desire the Government to increase the coverage of this Scheme from the present 482 identified districts in 19 States to cover the entire Country. They are pretty sanguine that by enhancing its coverage the Country would be closer to attaining, if not complete food security, at least in the Twelfth Plan Period.

Reply of the Government

As desired by the Committee, 27 States of the Country have been covered under NFSM during 2012-13.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

STRENGTHENING AND MODERNIZATION OF PEST MANAGEMENT IN INDIA
(Recommendation Para No. 3.48)

The major thrust area of plant protection is promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), ensuring availability of safe and quality pesticides for sustaining crop production from the ravages of pests and diseases, streamlining quarantine measures for preventing entry of exotic pests and human resource development in plant protection skills. The Committee, however, are concerned to note that during the last five fiscals out of the RE amount of Rs.112.57 crore the actual expenditure stands at only Rs.80.01 crore which is 71.08% of the RE. The reasons attributed for this are delay in acquisition of land for new Central Integrated Pest Management Centres/ Locust Control Offices etc. These procedural delays have made our agriculturists vulnerable to the threat of pest attacks which could be calamitous for our agricultural production that really causes the Committee deep anguish. They, therefore, urge the Department to accord top priority to this Scheme and ensure all procedural aspects are taken care off in real quick time and ensure smooth implementation of the Scheme in the Twelfth Plan period, which could then reflect positively on the optimum utilization of sanctioned funds as also reflect in reducing the crop losses as a result thereof. They would await the details of the promised new initiatives/activities being proposed in the Twelfth Plan.

Reply of the Government

PROMOTION OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The following activities are proposed to be undertaken to utilize maximum funds during the 12th five year plan. An allocation of Rs.35 crore has been made in BE 2012-13 for implementation of the scheme.

S. No.	ACTIVITIES
1.	Continuation of CIPMCs and existing activities
2.	e-pest surveillance
3.	Recruitment of Pest Scouts through service provider

4.	Construction of CIPMC Buildings
7.	Opening of Four New CIPMCs
6.	Establishment of Pest Diagnostic Unit at five regional CIPMCs
7.	Pest surveillance Unit of Invasive Pest Species
8.	Procurement of Laboratory Equipments-
9.	Procurement of New Vehicles-(17 vehicle)
10.	Additional Posts- 252 Posts
11.	Rodent Management
12.	Capacity Building Programme in IPM
13.	Farmer to Farmer IPM Field School
14.	Coordination with Research & Extension Agencies and Other stakeholders
15.	Crop Pest surveillance and Farmers Field School activities in Scheduled Dessert Area (SDA) through Locust Warning Organization (LWO) staff.
16.	Outsources of Services/ Services to be outsourced.
17.	Data Management cum Pest Forecasting Unit
18.	Creation of Emergency Mitigation and preparedness cell for ensuing pests

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS **(Recommendation Para No. 3.49)**

The Committee note that despite the BE for the fiscal 2011-12 getting doubled to Rs.500.00 Crore for BE of Rs.250.00 Crore for the preceding fiscal, the same old story of BE being pruned at RE stage and actual expenditure being still lower in comparison to the actual allocation. This is in spite of the fact that the scheme was fully operational on 19th March, 2010. These repetitive irritants retarding the progress of this vital Scheme which aims at making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination in the form of ATMA truly enrages the Committee, as lower utilization of funds year after year directly lowers dissemination of technology to farmers.

They further note that had the new five year plan started from 1st April, 2012, the Department could have broken free of the jinxed past and taken up the cudgels on behalf of the toiling farming community, removal all obstacles hindering the smooth

implementation of this scheme and ensure optimum utilization of funds thereby directly impacting the farming community in a positive manner. They, therefore, desire the Department to take a proactive approach in the matter and do justice to the farming community at large.

Reply of the Government

The financial progress under Extension Reforms Scheme is given hereunder: -

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	B.E.	R.E.	Release	Percentage
2005-06	45.00	45.00	43.90	97.55%
2006-07	75.00	50.00	48.27	64.36%
2007-08	230.00	150.00	155.81	67.7 %
2008-09	298.00	198.00	193.01	64.77%
2009-10	298.00	188.98	178.59	59.93%
2010-11	250.00	220.00	240.28	96.11%
2011-12	500.00	458.60	434.01	86.81%
2012-13	600.00			

The above table reveals that there has generally been a consistently increasing trend in expenditure. During the year 2011-12, 94.63% expenditure (as against RE) was incurred despite Assembly Elections in 5 States, which impeded deployment of manpower during the period under report.

It is also submitted that regular follow-up has been done with States for smooth implementation of Modified ATMA Scheme through review meetings; conferences; workshops; and written, telephonic & electronic communication. Consequently, State Extension Work Plans (SEWPs) from 27 States & 2 UTs were got approved by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC)/ Technical Committee (TC) during 2011-12. 25 States have so far reported deployment of nearly 12000 personnel at different levels.

The Government has been trying its utmost to strengthen Extension Reforms. A National Mission on Agricultural Extension Technology has been proposed during 12th Plan. The Mission will focus on disseminating timely information and appropriate

technology among farmers through the structure of ATMA and Block Technology Teams (BTT). EFC for the proposed mission is under preparation.

Expenditure on extension activities has risen by 9 times over a period of 5 years since 2006-07. With the deployment of manpower and commensurate increase in extension activities, percentage of expenditure as against BE & RE has increased considerably.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS **(Recommendation Para No. 3.50)**

Having recognized the pressing need to motivate the States/UTs to increase their participation in the Scheme and avail more central funds, the Committee recommends the Department to also take into consideration the views of the implementing agencies i.e. the States/UTs and try to incorporate their views on this scheme to the possible extent. This in their opinion would ensure that States/UTs become dynamic participants and then attain the status of being reliable partners in implementing this Scheme. They further desire that the reach of this pivotal Scheme be widened from the present 604 ATMAs in 28 States and 3 UTs, so as to ensure that all States/UTs are covered by this Scheme before the culmination of the Twelfth Plan.

Reply of the Government

Feedback & views of the States/UTs are obtained regularly in Review Meetings, Zonal input conferences and National Conferences held annually before Rabi and Kharif seasons and also by talking to the officers concerned in the States/ UTs on phone. Their suggestions for further improvement in implementation of the Scheme are being incorporated in the 12th Plan EFC.

The Government has already decided to cover all the rural districts across the country under ATMA Scheme. Number of ATMAs has been increased from 604 to 614 during 2012-13 in 28 States & 3UTs. However, three UTs namely Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have not been responding to ATMA Scheme since inception i.e. 2005-06.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.25 of Chapter I of this Report.

SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS (Recommendation Para No. 3.51)

They also note that only half of the States/UTs i.e. 14 out of the 28 States/UTs having furnished their study reports on the Scheme to the Department, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation made in their Twenty-second Report that the remaining 14 recalcitrant States/UTs be politely but firmly requested to get the needful done at the earliest and forward the same to the Department as monitoring and evaluation of a Scheme helps to iron out its inherent weaknesses and increase its viability. Last, but not least, the Committee would also like to be apprised about the action initiated by the Department on the recommendations contained in the report on Impact Assessment of Establishment of Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centres Scheme done by M/s Spectrum India, Planning, Faridabad during 2011-12; and Evaluation of Kisan Call Centres by Administrative Staff college of India, Hyderabad. They also desire to be apprised of the recommendations of three separate Committees which evaluated the function of MANAGE, Hyderabad, along with the action taken thereon.

Reply of the Government

ATMA Scheme

Eighteen States/UTs have reported that they have completed 3rd Party M&E so far. Apart from above, four States/ UTs namely Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Bihar and Puducherry have reported that 3rd Party Evaluation is under progress in their States. Rest of the States are being pursued and reminded regularly.

ACABC Scheme

The impact assessment of the ACABC Scheme was conducted by M/s. Global Agri Systems Private Ltd. New Delhi during 2007-08. Based upon the findings and recommendations of the Study Report, the following actions have been initiated:-

- Eligibility under the scheme is now open to Biological Science graduates with post graduation in agriculture & allied subjects from SAUs/ Central Agricultural Universities/ Universities recognized by ICAR/ UGC, diploma / post graduate diploma holders in agriculture and allied subjects from State Agricultural Universities and also Intermediate (i.e. plus two) level with agriculture courses (subject to 55% marks).
- Subsidy pattern has been simplified from existing “capital and interest subsidy” to “composite subsidy”, which is 44% of project cost for women, SC/ST & all categories of candidates from NE and Hill states and 36% of project cost for all others.
- Training cost has been enhanced to Rs.35000/- per trainee for two month duration programme.
- Cost ceiling of projects has been revised to Rs.20 lakh for individual’s project and to Rs.100 lakh for a group project (minimum of five individuals).

- Additional amount of 10% on food, accommodation, honorarium, training expenditure and handholding cost in NE and Hill States has been included under the Scheme.
- Awareness programme for the Banks & other stakeholders and Refresher Training Courses for the successful agripreneurs have been initiated.
- Greater involvement of State functionaries, ICAR Institutes, SAUs PRIs etc has been provided in the Scheme for monitoring and certification of the agri-ventures set up under the Scheme to ensure greater ownership by the State.

KISAN CALL CENTRES:

Based upon the findings and recommendations of the Impact Assessment Study conducted by Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, following actions have been initiated:-

- The old toll free number 1551 has been switched over to the new toll free number 1800-181-1551 which is configured for wider accessibility to callers of all telecom service providers including mobile phones and the same has been publicized through important national dailies and Audio/Video Spots through Doordarshan. All India Radio as well as private Channels.
- KCC locations have been set up in appropriate room size and have improved infrastructure and related facilities now for effective handling of calls. In all the KCC locations, KCC agents from the same States who are proficient in communication in local dialects have been positioned.
- The service condition of KCC agents have been improved by increasing their salary from Rs 10,000/- to Rs. 15,000/- and Rs.18000/- to supervisors along with PF and ESIC contribution. A provision of annual increase of 7.5% is also provided for better performing KCC agents who are continuing in service for more than one year.
- The web based software developed for backend support has provision for creating a unique caller ID to the farmers calling the KCC to retrieve the frequent

callers to reduce time of conversation. Also there are provisions to capture the UID number.

- In addition to above, following state of the art technological features are being incorporated under Kisan Call Centres through new service provider, i.e. IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd (IKSL):
 - Voice/Media Gateways (IPPBX based decentralized system).
 - Dedicated MPLS leased line network with dedicated bandwidth.
 - Call barging.
 - 100% call recording and call reply
 - SMS to caller farmers providing a gist of advisories given to them on phone.
 - Voice mail system for recording farmer's queries during idle time of KCC or during call lines busy, with provision for call back to the caller.
 - Soft phones in every personal computer with caller ID facility.
 - Continuous up scaling the knowledge of CCAs.
 - Facility of video conferencing.
 - Modified Call Escalation Matrix
 - Centralized monitoring of KCCs at different locations.

MANAGE:

Recommendations of the three separate Committees which evaluated the function of MANAGE, Hyderabad along with the action taken thereon is given below:

I. Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) Report on evaluation of training activities of MANAGE 1985-86 to 1994-95:

Recommendations	Action Taken
1.1 At each level there should be a training coordinator for agricultural and extension departments. All training is processed through State Training Coordinator	During the last one decade, state level training institutions termed as SAMETIs have been established in many of the states. As such, the training coordination for each of these states is assigned to SAMETIs and the Directors of SAMETI act as the National Training Coordinator and facilitator for MANAGE training programmes. This system has been established and is functioning effectively.
1.2. MANAGE facilitators could be designated as training coordinators	
1.3 MANAGE should prepare a write up for each programme to be sent to State Departments and other organizations in advance	This is being done. The details are communicated through write ups well in advance to the sponsors / Head of Departments to identify appropriate participants for the programmes, so that they in turn can depute appropriate persons.
1.4 Technical component in management training be increased and both meshed together	Technical and managerial components for the training programmes are well planned to meet the objectives of the training programmes based on the feed back of the participants and review of the course
1.5 More workshops / seminars for top level functionaries as this would help in transfer of learning to the field staff.	Workshops and seminars for top level functionaries are an integral part of MANAGE training programmes with specific reference to bigger projects like National Agricultural Technology Project, Extension Reforms, Participatory Adaptive Research, Agri. Entrepreneurship Development, National Horticulture Mission etc.
1.6 Provide additional reading material on ASA, PRA, FSBE.	The concepts like ASA, PRA, FSBE and others are the core training areas of MANAGE and advanced reading / study material and training material have been developed internally and supplied to the participants.
1.7 More case studies be prepared	Case studies have been developed. However, there is need to increase the number of cases in each functional area.
1.8 Selection of task for group work during training should be job oriented	Normally in all the courses the group tasks assigned relate to the job situations of the majority of the participants.

1.9	Develop training modules for village level extension workers	MANAGE is able to reach out to develop the training modules for village level functionaries through capacity building of the state level trainers and master trainers from SAMETIs, SAUs, KVKs etc.
1.10	Joint training programmes for officers from service agencies like seeds, irrigation, legal and finance. Progressive farmers should be invited to such programmes.	This is being done
1.11	Programmes for improving coordination between agricultural departments and agricultural universities	This is being done, more so under extension reforms which focuses on integrated delivery of technical advise based on SREPs.
1.12	Follow up workshops after six months to one year of training	This is being done with reference to specific projects. In future, it will be increased further.
1.13	Prepare case studies and reading material based on the faculty experience dealing with officials of various agencies all over India	This is being done as already indicated under Item No.1.7. Research proposals are being prepared by MANAGE faculty and are being submitted to the Academic Committee for approval. After approval, these are submitted to EC for funds.
1.14	A separate research fund be created. Research proposals should be duly approved by a specially constituted research committee within MANAGE.	
1.15	Standardized format for participants feedback should be institutionalized.	MANAGE has been using standardized format for feedback from the participants.

II. RAU Committee Report on evaluation of training activities of MANAGE - 1995 to 1998:

Recommendations	Action Taken
2.1 Training can be strengthened by ascertaining needs of the farmers, their research priorities	Being done. Participatory approaches are being used to ascertain the training needs of participants and other stake holders

	and general trend in the management of extension systems.	in the system to plan and implement the extension programmes at the district level and below.
2.2	Secretaries and Directors of agriculture can be brought together for short-term brain storming sessions.	Head of Departments of Agriculture and allied departments are being invited to brain storm in the project specific areas at MANAGE and regional level.
2.3	Action research should be an integral part of the MANAGE	Action research has been an integral part of MANAGE to monitor projects. Guidelines on Watershed Development, PAR, SREP and institutionalization of ATMA have been some of the major outcomes of action research in MANAGE.
2.4	Regular contact with all the participants who have been trained by them.	Regular contact is being maintained with the project specific participants. Directors are being contacted during the follow up workshops
2.5	Develop training programme in management of new farming system, post harvest technologies, value adding processes and the like	Subjects like farming systems, post harvest technology, value addition processes, supply chain management, market led extension are some of the contemporary subjects which are currently dealt in MANAGE training programmes. MANAGE has taken up consultancy with experts in the concerned subject areas and other faculty in the state.
2.6	The faculty in the existing institutions in States should receive special attention	Capacity building of the state level institutions including SAMETIs, SAUs and KVKs is taken up. State level facilitators are being trained through exclusive programmes on Training of Trainers / Facilitators Development.
2.7	The system of training of trainers should be revived and vitalized	
2.8	MANAGE should study organizations and management structures of different organizations	O&M studies were taken up by MANAGE faculty as a result of which, the concept of ATMA and SAMETIs were conceived and currently SAMETIs and ATMA are established in most of the states.
2.9	MANAGE should undertake studies of the ways in which the farmers are managing with indigenous technologies with varied success	MANAGE has been able to reach out to the farmers level through various interventions including preparation of SREPs wherein ITKs also were collected, documented and disseminated.

2.10	A certain period within a year needs to be allocated where the staff members can pursue their subjects in-depth and produce papers on the area of their interest	Professional development is a continuous process and hence specific time frame needs to be allotted to the entire faculty to take up self development through in depth studies in their areas of interest. A balance is to be struck for research and training for MANAGE faculty. As of now, the training workload is very heavy.
2.11	MANAGE work should be limited and not over-extended	
2.12	MANAGE should work with private organizations, voluntary agencies whose work synchronizes with that of MANAGE	MANAGE is helping certain private institutions such as CALPI , Indo-Swiss, MSSF and seed companies to build the capacities of their personnel.
2.13	The Academic Committee should be activated	Academic Committee has been activated by involving reputed organizations such as IIM, IRMA, Planning Commission, NAARM, SAUs etc.

III. IIM Report on Evaluation of Training activities during October 1998 to March 2001

Recommendations		Action Taken
3.1	On the whole 67 % of the programmes planned could be conducted	Over 95 % of the planned programmes have been conducted during the last two years. Further, there is an increase in sponsored and paid training programmes both at national and international level during the recent years. MANAGE programme content has improved in qualitative terms by involvement of client managers / academic experts, personnel from development sector and private industries in deciding the content.
3.2	30 % planned but not conducted fully under the category of Agriculture Technology Management, International Training Programmes sponsored programmes	
3.3	There was a phenomenal growth appreciated though not improvement in the quality	
3.4	Only 6 % of women participants participated in the training programme which was observed to be minimal.	The participation of the women participants has improved substantially with specific programmes on Gender Sensitization. MANAGE has also developed Master Trainers Module for other institutions in the country and trained master trainers for conducting one day and three day training programmes on gender sensitization.

3.5. Over the years senior level officers trained slightly declined and lower level functionaries were increasing.	<p>Since the focus of training programmes over the years has increased for field level functionaries, since MANAGE is involved in the field level projects such as ATMA operationalization in various states.</p> <p>As a result, the participation of district level and below has gone up significantly. Though the participation of senior functionaries remains the same, their percentage has come down in comparison to participants and training programmes for field level functionaries</p>
3.6 Reports on training pedagogy training contents etc. available from the coordinators were missing which is valuable for the designing and planning of the programmes	MANAGE has a standard format for course reports, covering training objectives, methodology, content cover, details of the resource persons, feed back and summary course report by the Course Director. The Course Report is being submitted for each programme to DG with copy to Programme Division.
3.7 Practice for the maintaining course report and course items needs to be strengthened. Standard format is needed to be developed.	
3.8 There is a need to cut down the duration to one hour instead of half-a-day on inaugural and valedictory function	<p>Largely MANAGE has done away with the inauguration and valedictory functions and wherever this is thought appropriate, limited time frame is being allotted.</p> <p>Valedictory and Inaugural functions are kept to the bare minimum.</p>
3.9 There is missing link in group exercises and individual presentations which was actually observed	This may be an isolated case. More often than not, the training group exercises and the individual presentations are linked with the objective of the session. However, this is consciously taken care by the MANAGE faculty.
3.10 Though the record keeping is improved to some extent, in recent years, it was not satisfactory	Point Nos.3.6 and 3.7 may please be referred.
3.11 The off-campus programmes were found satisfactory though the academic input but boarding and lodging facilities were found unsatisfactory. In order to maintain high image of MANAGE	The class room input of the off campus training programmes are highly appreciated by the participants. However, boarding and lodging facilities particularly in the off-campus programmes need some improvement. The nodal / link

facilities need not be compromised.	institutions where the off-campus training programmes are conducted need to provide improved services, as most of the states have got SAMETIs now. This issue has already been taken care of by the SAMETIs.
3.12 No case studies are used in the training programmes. The committee feel the number of cases dealt needs a up gradation.	Case studies are used in the training programmes. However, to increase its usage, specific time allocation for the faculty along with capacity building to junior faculty would be taken up.
3.13 Titling of the programmes need to be registered at Programme Division, if needed could be computerized.	This is already being done. Academic calendar is approved by Academic Committee well in advance and also printed for circulation to the states along with the dates of the programmes, content and design. This is recorded and monitored in the training division of MANAGE.
3.14 Inviting local leaders, senior bureaucrats and prominent personalities is appreciated but recommended only to workshops and conferences but not for training programmes.	This is being done.
3.15 All the course reports needs to be presented and discussed in the faculty meeting. Unless the report is submitted Director General may not permit to initiate new programme.	This is already in practice. The reports are being discussed with MANAGE faculty, however, it will be taken up at the institutional level also. Earlier a pattern of Faculty / Facilitator workshops were conducted once in six months for sharing
3.16 Though there is lot of learning generated by different training programmes, which is not shared among the faculty members.	of learning and lessons among the faculty. This will be revived in future.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

NATIONAL HORTICULTURE MISSION (NHM)
(Recommendation Para No. 3.52)

The Committee are happy to be apprised that post implementation of various horticulture development programmes including NHM, the availability of fruits has increased from 138 gms/pers/day in 2004-05 to 172gms/pers/day in 2010-11 and that of vegetables from 279gms/pers/day to 337gms/pers/day in the same period. They applaud the National Horticulture Mission for a task well done and are of the firm belief that they would continue to strive for further increasing the availability levels of fruits & vegetables in the years to come. They are, however, constrained to note that allocated funds have been under-utilized during the Eleventh Plan period due to various reasons. Not inclined to dwell upon these reasons as they would not help in finding a solution herein, they urge the Department to play a more pro-active role and motivate States/UTs to be active partners. One positive aspect being the removal of credit linkage from some of the Post Harvest Management Components. Keeping in view the vast, yet untapped potential of Horticulture especially in the NER and other Mountainous regions of the Country, they desire the Department to lay more emphasis on this Scheme in the Twelfth Plan to ensure that horticulture produce increases and be in a position to tap export markets after having satisfied domestic consumption.

Reply of the Government

National Horticulture Mission Scheme (NHM): -

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Release
2007-08	1100.00	900.00	917.33
2008-09	1100.00	1000.00	1010.50
2009-10	1100.00	830.00	800.00
2010-11	1061.98	986.00	970.86
2011-12	1200.00	1150.00	1049.99

In 2007-08 and 2008-09, release exceeded RE, whereas in the next two years (2009-10 & 2010-2011), there was minor shortfall. However, in 2011-12, there was shortfall to the tune of Rs.100.00 crore. This was due to less demand from the state implementing agencies as sufficient funds were available with them which includes bank interest on central grants-in-aid, unspent balance of previous year and release of state share in time.

National Mission on Micro Irrigation Scheme (NMMI): -

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Release
2007-08	550.00	430.00	411.26
2008-09	500.00	470.00	470.00
2009-10	430.00	480.00	480.00
2010-11	1000.00	982.00	997.25
2011-12	1150.00	1150.00	1227.00

Under NMMI, RE level was achieved except during 2007-08.

Action taken to ensure uniform pace of utilization of funds: -

(i) Meetings were held with state implementing agencies in the month of March 2012 for finalizing their Annual Action Plans for 2012-13.

(ii) Meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of NHM was convened in the first week of April to approve the outlay for 2012-13.

(iii) States have been sensitized to submit proposals for release and submit provisional UC for the previous year and Audited UC for 2010-11 well in time.

(iv) Frequency of meeting of the Empowered Committee of NHM has been increased to clear project based proposals.

(v) State Horticulture Missions are being impressed upon to pre-position inputs in advance for season based activities.

(vi) State Horticulture Missions have been advised to get State Share released during first quarter of the financial year.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

NATIONAL HORTICULTURE MISSION (NHM)
(Recommendation Para No. 3.53)

Keeping in view the huge potential of the horticulture sector and the shortage of public investment in agriculture, the Committee desire the Government to take all possible steps to ensure greater participation of private sector in horticulture sector both in terms of production and post-production areas, especially the export markets for fruits and flowers. Guidelines should be made flexible with adequate checks and balances to ensure that the farmer is not taken for a ride and his interest is always taken care of as he is the toiler who ensures food for all.

Reply of the Government

Ministry of Agriculture is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB) and Horticulture Mission in North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) schemes, which provide assistance for a number of components related to horticulture development including private sector investment through creation of post harvest infrastructure like cold storages, controlled atmosphere/modified atmosphere (CA/MA) storages and refrigerated transport in the country.

A few Government initiatives taken during 11th Plan

i. Enhanced Pattern of Assistance:

Subsidy enhanced from 25% to 40% in General Area and from 33.33% to 55% in Hilly and scheduled area, to attract more entrepreneurs and private investment in Cold Chain Infrastructure Sector.

ii. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for warehousing

Finance Minister in his budget speech for 2012-13 has proposed to earmark Rs. 5,000 crore for creating warehousing facilities (including cold storages) from the allocation under RIDF.

During 2011-12, there was provision of Rs. 2,000 crore under RIDF VII for the first time.

iii. Reduction of Excise Duty on Import of Cold Storage Equipments

During 2011-12 full exemption from excise duty has been extended to air-conditioning equipment and refrigeration panels for cold chain infrastructure; including conveyor belts.

iv. External Commercial Borrowing (ECB)

External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) can be raised for investments in new projects, modernization/expansion of existing production units in real sector – industrial sector including infrastructure sector for creating cold storages or cold room facility, including farm level pre-cooling, for preservation or storage of agricultural/horticultural and allied produce.

v. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed under automatic route in storage and warehousing including warehousing of agriculture products with refrigeration i. e. cold storages.

vi. National Mission on Food Processing

In order to have a better outreach and to provide more flexibility to suit local needs of fruits and vegetables, it has been decided that a new centrally sponsored scheme titled “National Mission on Food Processing” would be started, in cooperation with the State Governments in 2012-13 under which cold storage for processing purposes will also be developed. This mission will be implemented by MoFPI as a centrally sponsored scheme.

vii. Introduction of Horti Train

Introduction of dedicated train and reefer van is also expected to bridge the gap between the producers and consumers thereby ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers. A trial run in this regard has been made successfully between Bhusawal (Maharashtra) to Azadpur Mandi (New Delhi).

viii. Technical Standards Notification

Following Technical Standards for storing fresh fruits & vegetables had been notified for implementation w.e.f.1.4.2010.

- a. Fresh Horticulture produce Not requiring pre-cooling before storage
(Technical standards number NHB-CS-Type 01-2010)
- b. Fresh Horticulture produce requiring pre-cooling before storage
(Technical standards number NHB-CS-Type 02-2010)
- c. Control Atmosphere (CA) Cold Storage
(Technical Standards Number NHB-CS-Type 03-2010)
- d. Fruit Ripening Units
(Technical standards number NHB-CS-Type 04-2010)

ix. National Centre for Cold Chain Development (NCCD)

NCCD has been constituted as an autonomous body and has been registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act 1860.

The aims and objectives of the Society are:

- a. To recommend standards and protocols for cold chain infrastructure/building including post harvest management so as to harmonize with international

standards and best practices and suggest mechanism for bench marking and certification of infrastructure/building, process and services provided by cold chain industry.

- b. To suggest indicative guidelines for preparation of project reports for potential investors/entrepreneurs.
- c. To assess and develop appropriate IT-based management information system for the cold chain infrastructure.
- d. To undertake and coordinate Research and Development (R&D) work required for development of cold chain industry in consultation with stakeholders.
- e. To undertake and coordinate the task of Human Resource Development (HRD) and capacity building. It may also conduct in-house training, short-term/long term courses relevant for cold chain development.
- f. To launch publicity campaign to educate the stakeholders including awareness building about the benefits of integrated cold chain.
- g. To recommend appropriate policy framework relating to development of cold chain.
- h. To facilitate and foster the development of multi-modal transportation facilities for perishable agricultural, horticultural and allied commodities and establishment of National Green Grid Perishable Commodities.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

**DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF SEED INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES
FOR PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF QUALITY SEEDS**
(Recommendation Para No. 3.54)

The Committee observe that though the availability of quality seeds has exceeded the requirement for the same during the last five fiscals, yet the lack of proposals received from States/UTs and implementing agencies, non-submission of utilization certificates and physical progress report in regard to previous releases have led to actual expenditure being lower in comparison to the allocated amount. This factor

which is inherent of the malaise rocking the extant system of implementation of schemes in a federal structure truly causes the Committee deep anguish. What makes the Committee ponder over this mismatch wherein in spite of low expenditure the availability of seeds exceeded the requirement.

The Committee exhort upon the Department to motivate the States to exercise financial discipline by timely submission of utilization certificates of past allocations and forward fresh proposals in time. They also desire the Department to introspect to have a relook at the extant guidelines due to which the States are not forthcoming to availing central funds as of now and devise strategies to remedy the situation at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

The State Governments are invariably advised at the beginning of the financial year to submit proposals as per guidelines, which include submission of Utilization Certificates etc. Accordingly efforts are made to get the physical and financial progress reports from all implementing agencies regularly. Utilization certificate for future releases is insisted upon. This is pointedly reminded to the States during meetings and over phone. Moreover the sanctions issued from time to time under the Central Sector Scheme “Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds” provide that the funds can only be utilized for the indicated purpose and the implementing agencies have to submit quarterly physical and financial progress report etc as also the utilization certificate in prescribed proforma. Keeping in view the recommendations, as aforesaid, State Governments are being addressed again to ensure that the budgetary allocations under the scheme are optimally utilized to enable the scheme to serve its mandated purpose and to submit proposals complete in all respect and as per guidelines including utilization certificates/physical progress etc.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

CHAPTER III

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NO DESIRE
TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENTS ACTION TAKEN REPLY**

-NIL-

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS **(Recommendation No. 2.32)**

During the course of the Eleventh Plan period the Committee have repeatedly observed that in spite of the Department's expenditure being in the range of 95% of the amount finalized in the revised estimates, the Department were not allocated the entire approved outlay of Rs.66577.00 crore by the Planning Commission. They are of the opinion that had the balance of Rs.5049.10 crore been allocated, the implementation of Schemes would have been much better. The Committee further observe that the allocations at BE vis-à-vis RE stage fluctuated in that while the fiscals 2007-08 and 2010-11 showed increased RE, in the remaining three Fiscals the RE was less than the approved BE. They are pained to note that their constant pleas to rectify the imbalances have gone unheard during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. However, keeping in view the interest of Indian agriculture they cannot but reiterate their recommendation yet again. As the Twelfth Five Year Plan has just commenced, the Committee impress upon all the agencies concerned i.e. the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) to adopt a holistic approach and not hold the past as a benchmark. The allocation of funds to the Department must be evenly spread across all the five fiscals so as to avoid back loading of plan funds. This would ensure that the Department is allocated maximum funds out of the approved outlay and it is able to absorb these funds easily and ensure optimum utilization of allocated resources. This in the opinion of the Committee would bring the figures of approved outlay and actual allocations on an even keel.

Reply of the Government

As against approved allocation of Rs.66,577 crore for XI Plan, Planning Commission/Finance Ministry provided Rs.61,527.90 crore at RE stage after taking into consideration resource availability and demands from other competing national priorities. Out of this, an amount of Rs.60,866.232 crore has been utilized by the Department for the development of agriculture sector through various schemes implemented during Eleventh Plan period. This works out to 98.92% of allocated resources.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.7 of Chapter I of this Report.

INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE **(Recommendation Para No. 2.34)**

The Committee note that in spite of the increase in public sector investment in agriculture being in the range of 17.6% to 22.5% and the Gross Capital formation (GCF) in Agriculture & Allied sectors at 2004-05 prices for the fiscal 2010-11 being 20.1%, they are of the strong opinion that this is a meagre amount considering the fact that agriculture is the principal source of livelihood for 58% of the populace. The candid acceptance of the Department that the present level of public investment is inadequate and funds crunch is retarding the progress of a number of vital schemes further buttresses their opinion. They were also flummoxed to note that budget of the Department was not even 50% of the budget of the Rural Development Department, when both the Departments are operating in the same setup. Keeping in view the stark

reality that 60% of the population is living on 15% of the GDP, the Committee exhort upon the Planning Commission to go for a quantum enhancement of public investment in Agriculture sector during the Twelfth Plan Period so as to make it a sustainable and viable option for those who brave umpteen odds to venture into this vocation. The Committee also implore upon the Government to break free from the shackles of their extant piece-meal approach towards agriculture sector and go for a holistic approach. Not only will this change in approach ensure a turnaround in the agriculture sector but also align it on the path of sustainable growth, which it is craving for long.

Reply of the Government

Allocation of Central Plan Outlay for various sectors is done by the Planning Commission based on the overall resources available at the disposal of the Government, priorities assigned for competing sectors/objectives and after wide ranging consultations with the various stakeholders including the State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments etc. Keeping in mind the low growth rates in Agriculture sector during the 10th Five Year Plan, Government had made conscious efforts in stepping up the allocation to Agriculture & Allied sectors during Eleventh Five Year Plan by way of higher allocations and also incentivizing the State Governments to enhance public investment in these sectors to sustain and maintain capital formation and agriculture infrastructure. As a result, the Plan outlay on various schemes of this Department has increased substantially from Rs. 9530.33 crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 16515.05 crore in 2011-12 (RE), the terminal year of Eleventh Five Year Plan. For the current financial year (2012-13), which is also the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the Budget Estimate is Rs. 20208.00 signifying an increase of 22.36% over the previous year's Revised Estimate (RE).

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.10 of Chapter I of this Report.

MARKETING RESEARCH AND INFORMATION NETWORK (MRIN) **(Recommendation Para No. 3.46)**

The under-utilization of funds witnessed under the scheme of Marketing Research and Information Network (MRIN) during the last five fiscals causes the Committee great anguish. The main reason attributed for this by the Department is the lack of proposals from the States/UTs. They are unable to fathom the fact that in this era of widespread use of Information Technology, States are not willing to avail central funds for establishing a nationwide information network by providing electronic connectivity to important Agricultural produce markets spread over the length and breadth of the Country and the State Agricultural Marketing Boards and Directorates. Even after passage of almost twelve years, if the Scheme is under-performing, then the Department needs to do a quick and serious rethink on the fate of this scheme. They fully support the stand of the Department, which is currently under consideration on consultation with the Planning Commission for merging this Scheme under RKVY. As States have some amount of freedom under RKVY, the Committee whole-heartedly endorse the stand of the Department, as in their opinion this would ensure that States finally endorse this Scheme and await the funds herein for strengthening their information technology paraphernalia. They desire the Department to pursue the fructification of merger of the Scheme with RKVY and await a positive outcome thereon.

Reply of the Government

During XI Plan, a total of Rs. 20.00 crore was available for implementation of MRIN Scheme, with a plan outlay of Rs. 15.00 crore and Rs. 5.00 crore already available with NIC from savings of IX and X Plan period. The activities envisaged during XI Plan period included networking of 360 markets, replacement of 810 old computers,

payment of incentives to marketing personnel and market led extension activities. However, 590 new computers were sanctioned against the target of 360 computers and 574 old computers (provided during 2000-02) were sanctioned for replacement. The budget provided for new computers and replacement of old computers was not utilized due to availability of funds of with NIC from savings from IX and X Plan due to reduction of computer costs.

2. Rs.14.10 crore was, therefore, utilized during XI plan against the available funds of Rs. 15 crore which included funds of Rs.5.56 crore released to the States for undertaking market-led extension activities, i.e. Training of farmers and Training of Trainers etc as per the proposals received from the states. As such, the under utilization of funds were due to availability of funds with NIC.

3. Efforts have been made to intensify activities under the scheme. The AGMARKNET portal has been harmonized with State portals. The database developed under AGMARKNET is also serving various Commodity Directorates of Department of Agriculture & Co-operation by providing customized hyperlinks to data pertaining to specific commodities. The dissemination of market information is being made in association with other mobile service providers like REUTERS, IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd., NOKIA and BSNL etc. through SMS to the farmers and other beneficiaries.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.19 of Chapter I of this Report.

GRAMEEN BHANDARAN YOJANA
(Recommendation Para No. 3.47)

The Committee note the Grameen Bhandaran Yoana caters to creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produces, agricultural inputs and prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit. During the Eleventh Plan out of the RE figure of Rs.468.00 crore the actual expenditure was Rs.447.69 crore which is about 95.66% of the RE amount. What causes concern to the Committee is the physical achievement part of the Scheme, as the data furnished by the Department only mentions the number of completed godowns and total capacity. Further the Secretary during his deposition was unable to furnish data regarding capacity utilization of these godowns. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department to get this data collected and furnish the same to them at the earliest so that a proper and accurate assessment of this Scheme can be done at the earliest. This factor attains importance due to the increased production in foodgrains witnessed in the last two fiscals, thus creating storage problems for both the Central and State Governments.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry of Agriculture launched 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' w.e.f. 01.04.2001 with main objectives of creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc., and for prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit.

2. Since the inception of the scheme w.e.f. 1/4/2001 and up to 31st May, 2012, 28374 godowns having a capacity of 324.31 lakh tonnes with subsidy of Rs. 878.26 crores have been sanctioned all over the country.

3. Out of above, during the XI Plan period from April, 2007 to March, 2012, 13719 rural godown projects having a capacity of 135.01 lakh tonnes have been sanctioned under the scheme against the target of 90 lakh tones.

4. As the Rural Godown Scheme is construction linked and capital investment linked subsidy is provided under the scheme, data regarding capacity utilization of rural godown is not maintained. However, report of the Evaluation of the Central Sector Scheme of construction of Rural Godown carried out in 2005 mentions that 95 % of godowns are used to store agriculture output and only 5 % store both input and output.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.22 of Chapter I of this Report.

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF SEED INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES FOR PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF QUALITY SEEDS (Recommendation Para No. 3.55)

As admitted by the Department that the present infrastructure of seed testing i.e. Seed Testing Laboratories is inadequate, the Committee desire the Department to work on strengthening this infrastructure at the earliest. One positive step in the right direction would be getting the Scheme of National Mission on seeds cleared in quick time. They further desire the Department to establish Seed Testing Laboratories at more than one location in a district depending on the geographical size of the district. By doing so the farmers will be able to get firsthand knowledge about the quality of a particular seed before investing in it and hereby ensure that they get the best and certified seed for their investment which would finally ensure a quality produce and help

improve his economic well being. They desire to be apprised of the steps taken in this direction.

Reply of the Government

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is giving utmost importance to Seed Quality. To ensure availability of quality seeds, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has been providing financial assistance for strengthening/establishing of the Seed Testing Laboratories under the component “Quality control arrangements on seeds’ of the Central Sector Scheme “Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds”. Provision has been made in the scheme to provide financial assistance for various aspects of strengthening of seed testing laboratories, including establishment of DNA Finger Printing Laboratory.

It is proposed to have more focused approach to the whole gamut of activities pertaining to Seed Sector in the proposed sub mission on “Seeds and Planting Material” of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme “National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology”. The processes/approvals in this regard are being expedited.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.28 of Chapter I of this Report.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

(MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR TWELFTH PLAN) **(Recommendation Para No. 2.36)**

Having experienced the protractedness in finalizing the Eleventh Plan document by the agencies involved which has a cascading effect in terms of staggering of timelines and backloading of funds, the Committee in their Twenty-Second Report had recommended that the Planning Commission and other concerned agencies streamline the planning process and ensure timely finalization of the Twelfth Plan document and convey the same to all line Ministries/Department by 31 December, 2011 so that they are able to complete all necessary formalities at their end in the last quarter of the fiscal 2011-12 and be in all readiness to implement the Twelfth Plan Schemes from day one i.e. 1 April, 2012. However, much to their chagrin they have been apprised that the Twelfth Plan document is yet to be finalized and would take another three to four months before it is placed before the National Development Council. Concerned at this rather sordid state of affairs of the extant planning process riddled with multi level clearances which are time consuming, the Committee recommend that all concerned should keep in view the detrimental effect of this time consuming process on the development of all sectors and finally wake up and undertake concrete steps to get the Twelfth Plan Document finalized within the next three months at the earliest and avoid repetition of the fate of Eleventh Plan Document.

Reply of the Government

Planning Commission is in process of finalizing the Twelfth Plan. Approach Paper for Twelfth Five Year Plan has been approved by Full Planning Commission. Effort is being made to complete the process at an early date.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),
OM No.6-7/2012-B&A Dated the 30th July, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.16 of Chapter I of this Report.

NEW DELHI;
28 August, 2012
06 Bhadrapada, 1934 (Saka)

BASUDEB ACHARIA
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(2011-12)

MINUTES OF THE FORTY-FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 28 August, 2012 from 1000 hours to 1025 hours in Committee Room 'D' (G/F), Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Shashi Bhusan Behera - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOKSABHA

2. Shri Narayansingh Amlabe
3. Shri Thangso Baite
4. Smt. Ashwamedh Devi
5. Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia
6. Shri Devji M. Patel
7. Shri Vitthalbhai Hansrajibhai Radadiya
8. Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

9. Shri Vinay Katiyar
10. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
11. Shri Upendra Kushwaha
12. Shri Bharatsinh Prabhatsinh Parmar
13. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
14. Shri S. Thangavelu

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K. Vijayakrishnan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri P.C. Koul - Additional Director
3. Shri C. Vanlalruata - Deputy Secretary

*2. xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx

*3. xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx

*4. xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx

5. Thereafter, the Committee took up Memorandum No. 10 regarding draft Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).

6. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the draft Report without any modification.

The Committee then adjourned.

* Matter not related to this Report.

ANNEXURE-II

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE THIRTY FOURTH REPORT (15th LOK SABHA) OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2011-12)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	17
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government	
	Para Nos. 2.33, 2.35, 3.44, 3.45, 3.48, 3.49, 3.50, 3.51, 3.52, 3.53 and 3.54	
	Total	11
	Percentage	64.70%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	0%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Para Nos. 2.32, 2.34, 3.46, 3.47 and 3.55	
	Total	05
	Percentage	29.41%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Para No. 2.36	
	Total	01
	Percentage	5.89%